



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

November 25, 2013

Dr. Nancy J. McGinley
Superintendent
Charleston County School District
75 Calhoun Street
Charleston, SC 29401

Dear Superintendent McGinley,

I would like to extend my thanks to you and your staff for your hard work and collaboration with us as Charleston County School District (CCSD) begins to implement its Race to the Top – District grant. Between April 8, 2013 and November 13, 2013, we received initial and revised school implementation plans and detailed Scopes of Work that are consistent with the grantee’s approved application.

The Department conditionally approves the CCSD’s Lowcountry Lifelong Learning (L3) Scope of Work and the format of the school implementation plans; the grantee Scope of Work and school implementation plans include specific goals, activities, timeline, budgets, key personnel, and annual targets for key performance measures. As noted in the condition specified below, the Scope of Work will be subject to additional review and revision following the completion of Year 1 activities.

Condition: CCSD will submit College Enrollment baseline and targets, by subgroups, to the Department by September 30, 2014. In its approved Race to the Top - District application, CCSD established annual targets of two percent but did not have baseline data, by subgroups, to provide specific targets. If CCSD fails to meet the requirements for this condition, the Department will take appropriate enforcement action.

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The Department of Education’s mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.

On December 27, 2012, CCSD received a grant of \$19,388,399 with the condition that the grantee draw down no more than 10 percent (\$1,938,839.90) of the grant prior to approval of the grantee's Scope of Work. In accordance with the condition outlined above, CCSD may access the remaining balance of the award, consistent with its approved Year 1 Scope of Work and budget. Funds may be drawn down only as they are needed.

Sincerely,

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Ann Whalen
Director, Policy and Program Implementation
Implementation and Support Unit

cc: Lauren McCauley, CCSD, L3 Project Director
Lisa Herring, CCSD, Chief Academic Officer